

Serial No.: 10/519,717
Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-14. (canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A timepiece comprising a middle, a watch movement housed in the middle, a transceiver circuit associated with said movement and ~~an antenna connected to said transceiver circuit, said antenna being formed by~~ a solid electrically conductive monobloc mass having the shape of at least a portion of a ring which alone forms an antenna for said transceiver circuit, said mass being disposed on an outer periphery of said middle so as to be externally visible, said antenna being connected to the transceiver circuit by a conductor passing through a wall of the middle on a portion of its thickness.

16. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said conductive solid mass forms a decorative portion contributing to an appearance of said timepiece.

Serial No.: 10/519,717
Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

17. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said conductive solid mass is engaged in a groove made in a lateral surface of the middle.

18. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 16, wherein said timepiece includes a glass disk and said conductive solid mass forms at least a portion of a bezel surrounding said glass disk.

19. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said conductive solid mass constitutes a closed ring.

20. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said middle is made of electrically conductive material, said conductive solid mass being separated therefrom by an insulator.

21. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 20, wherein said insulator is made of a material chosen from the group consisting of the nitrile rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, polyurethanes, silicones, polymers and ceramics.

Serial No.: 10/519,717
Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

22. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 20, wherein said conductive solid mass and said insulator are fixedly attached to said middle by at least one of the following operations: chasing, screwing, bonding, brazing, crimping and/or riveting.

23. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said conductive solid mass is made of material from the group consisting of stainless steel, gold and zirconia charged with conductive particles.

24. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 23, wherein said solid conductive mass is coated rhodium or diamond.

25. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, further comprising a conductive element forming a ground plane for said antenna.

26. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 25, wherein said middle is metallic, said element forming the ground plane including a back of said middle.

Serial No.: 10/519,717
Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

27. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 25, wherein said middle is made of an electrically nonconductive material, said element forming the groundplane including a metal disk placed inside the middle against a back thereof.

28. (Currently Amended) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said antenna is a non-resonant capacitive antenna and is connected directly to said transceiver circuit.

29. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 15, wherein said timepiece is a wristwatch and said conductive solid mass forms an outer face of said wristwatch.

30. (Currently Amended) A timepiece comprising a middle, a watch movement with an associated transceiver circuit housed within the middle, and ~~an external antenna affixed to an outer periphery of said middle, said antenna being formed by a solid electrically conductive monobloc mass having the shape of at least a portion of a ring~~ affixed to an outer periphery of said middle, said solid electrically conductive monobloc mass alone forming an antenna for said transceiver circuit and being

Serial No.: 10/519,717
Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

connected to the transceiver circuit by a conductor passing through a wall of the middle.

31. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 30, wherein said conductive solid mass is engaged in a groove made in a lateral surface of the middle.

32. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 30, wherein said timepiece includes a glass disk and said conductive solid mass forms at least a portion of a bezel surrounding said glass disk.

33. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 30, wherein said conductive solid mass constitutes a closed ring.

34. (Previously Presented) The timepiece according to claim 30, wherein said timepiece is a wristwatch and said conductive solid mass forms an outer face or a bezel of said wristwatch.

35. (New) A timepiece comprising a middle, a watch movement with an associated transceiver circuit housed within the middle, and an external antenna, said antenna consisting of only a solid

Serial No.: 10/519,717
Atty. Docket No.: P70334US0

electrically conductive monobloc mass affixed to an outer periphery of said middle and having the shape of at least a portion of a ring, said antenna being connected to the transceiver circuit by a conductor passing through a wall of the middle.